



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Nobumasa SUZUKI
Appl. No. : 10/659,303
Filed : September 11, 2003
For : VERTEBRA BODY PLATE FOR VERTEBRAL COLUMN FIXING
SYSTEM
Group Art Unit : 3732
Examiner : Grace DOE
Confirmation No. : 3578

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 12, 2003, Applicant hereby submits a copy of a European Search Report dated May 15, 2006, with respect to patent family member European Patent Application No. EP 03 02 0809.4, in which the following documents were cited:

International Patent Publication No. 01/03570;

U.S. Patent No. 5,662,652;

French Patent Publication No. 2,836,371;

U.S. Patent No. 5,603,714;

ZDEBLICK et al., "Anterior Spinal Fixation after Lumbar Corpectomy," The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery, Vol. 73-A, No. 4, pp. 527-534 (April 1, 1991), XP000202596;

U.S. Patent No. 6,231,610; and

German Patent Publication No. 201 04 634.

The category of relevance, pertinent portions, and claims to which each document is relevant, as ascertained by the European Examiner, are set forth in the European Search Report.

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), copies of the U.S. patents are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign and non-patent documents are attached hereto and all of the above-noted documents are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicant with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicant notes that an Office Action on the merits has not issued after the filing of the Request for Continued Examination, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nobumasa SUZUKI

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June 12, 2006
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FORM PTO-1449		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office			Atty. Docket No. P24195		Application No. 10/659,303	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <small>(Use several sheets if necessary)</small>					Applicant Nobumasa SUZUKI			
					Filing Date September 11, 2003		Group 3732	
JUN 12 2006		U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIALS	SEARCHED & TRADEMADE SEARCHED	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
		6 6 2 6 5 2	09/02/97	SCHÄFER et al.				
		5 6 0 3 7 1 4	02/18/97	KANEDA et al.				
		6 2 3 1 6 1 0	05/15/01	GEISLER				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO
	0	1 / 0 3 5 7 0	01/18/01	W.I.P.O.				
	2	8 3 6 3 7 1	08/29/03	FRENCH				
	2	0 1 0 4 6 3 4	07/19/01	GERMANY				
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
	1	ZDEBLICK et al., "Anterior Spinal Fixation after Lumbar Corpectomy", The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery, Vol. 73-A, No. 4, pp. 527-234 (April 1, 1991), XP000202596.						
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED					
<small>*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>								